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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)  
**WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION**

**Mail Stop Patent Application**

Atty. Dkt. 4105-30

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

Date: April 12, 2004

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

**INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS, INFORMATION REPRODUCING APPARATUS, INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD, INFORMATION REPRODUCING METHOD AND INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract  
☐ Please **delete** the following inventors in the continuation/division/continuation-in-part application:  
**Deleted persons:**

25 pages of specification and claims (including 16 numbered claims), and  
10 sheets of accompanying drawing/s for Figures 1 - 10.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

**Application Number**  
2003-106278

**Country**  
JAPAN

**Day/Month/Year Filed**  
10 April 2003

16834 U.S. PTO  
10/822147  
041204

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

- ☒ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.  
☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.  
☐ The prior application is assigned to \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.  
☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.  
☐ Please enter the attached preliminary amendment **prior** to calculation of filing fee:

- ☒ Also attached: ☒ **Information Disclosure Statement**; ☐ **Non-Publication Request**; ☐ **Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission**; ☐ **Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application**; ☒ **Other: PTO 1449 and 2 Cited References**

1. Inventor: Kazuo KURODA Japanese  
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)  
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2. Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)  
Residence: (city) \_\_\_\_\_ (state/country) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!**

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*Arthur R. Crawford*